

USDA/Rural Development

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News Release

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USDA TEXAS RURAL DEVELOPMENT NAMES NEW DIRECTOR

Temple, Texas, March 14, 2002--USDA Texas Rural Development today announced that Mr. Francisco (Paco) Valentin, Jr., has been named to serve as Director, Rural Utilities Service at the State Office in Temple. USDA Rural Development is charged with assisting rural communities by administering programs targeted to strengthening the economy and infrastructure of rural areas.

Mr. Valentin's new responsibilities include providing guidance, leadership and training to staff in 30 field offices across Texas on the implementation of the rural utilities program. Additionally, he supervises a team of specialists, engineers and technical and clerical employees whose mission is to provide safe and sanitary infrastructure in rural areas of the state.

"We are very pleased to have Mr. Valentin on board," said Bryan Daniel, Texas State Director. "He has a 23 year history with the agency and has a wealth of knowledge that will serve us well."

A graduate of Southwest Texas State University at San Marcos, Texas, Mr. Valentin started his federal career in 1979 in Gilmer, Texas. During his career he also worked in Caldwell, Temple, Bryan and most recently in Georgetown where he served as Rural Development Manager responsible for a 19 county area in central Texas. Mr. Valentin and his wife, Angie, reside in Temple with their two daughters, Jordan and Taylor. He is an avid outdoorsman, shooter, and hunter.

For more information about the Rural Utilities Service water and wastewater program, please call Mr. Valentin at (254) 742-9789.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

The USDA Rural Development mission area was created in 1994 and includes the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's 53 million rural people.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

